

Visitor Programs and Events

Summer 2015

New York – *Listings for Brooklyn & Queens*

Summer—Really Arriving?

Spring has been a long time coming, and it follows one of the worst winters we have known for some time. There have already been droves of visitors at all the sites and it is clear that people are having a great time at Gateway already, but there's more to come.

Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial: Find Your Park!

Enter the Gateway Photo Contest to be held during the month of July. The pictures must be recent (within the current year) and must tell the story: **I found my park!** The park need not be in the NPS system, but can be any park which you use, enjoy and consider yours.

We have created a special **Gateway Photo Contest Edition: I found my park!** posted below. Please go to this edition to get the full contest rules. We have included some sample pictures as well. Note that these pictures are not contest entries, but have been chosen because they show context, setting, and tell a story. Don't feel that you have to replicate these....**You find your park** and tell your story by entering the contest. Contest submissions are during month of July.

This summer guide has one of the richest and most varied selection of activities we have offered. A special focus this season is on introductory programs specifically designed for newbies.

On Sunday June 14, we present **Play by the Bay**, by NYC Parks and National Park Service. Come to experience a range of demonstrations including camping, kayaking, biking, see live birds of prey, live music, dance and storytelling. This event is designed to showcase activities you can do all summer at the various park sites including our sister NYC Parks in Jamaica Bay.

At Jamaica Bay there's Your Park Your Health: Check out: Let's Go Camping, Let's go Kayaking, and Let's go Biking



--these are introductory--if you have never camped, kayaked or biked these are great intros. We have the Absolute Beginner Series: Join us for Birding and Morning Meditation. In addition the Walk up and Paddle kayak sessions are designed for newbies. And for those who are into gardening, learn to make your own herbed vinegars and oils, and natural dyes.

At Staten Island our popular evening Lantern Tours are offered several times, or join us for the overnight camping programs designed for newbies. There's a campfire reading of *Treasure Island* at Great Kills, or Celebrate the NPS Centennial and Independence Day at the Fort Wadsworth Overlook.

At Sandy Hook we have reopened History House, and there are lots of programs for kids. The ever popular Beach Concerts presents nine shows from June 17 to August 12. Or try out canoeing if you have never done it. And we have programs that are after peak sun for those who are ready to do some exploring after the beach.

*Jonathan Kruk, Master Storyteller finds his park and is featured at **Play by the Bay** on Sunday June 14 at Ryan Center in Floyd Bennett Field. Steve Kelman, photo.*

And of course there are the beaches – Riis, Staten Island, Sandy Hook—take your pick, and try'em all, but never swim in unguarded areas

Please check out the guides for all the units to see which programs may provide some new experiences for you to help you get outside and get moving.

These programs, events and activities are great opportunities to Find Your Park, so take the camera and submit your pictures that say **I Found My Park!** Have a great and safe summer.

Do you receive email notifications of Gateway's programs and events? If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, please send a message to Charles.Markis@nps.gov, with 'program guide' in the subject line and we will add you.

The ♥ symbol denotes a hike or walk of moderate activity. Improve your health, as you enjoy your park.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

For all boating programs:

dress to get wet, wear shoes that will not fall off, and bring water, sunscreen and a snack. Kayaks or canoes, personal floatation devices, paddles and instruction will be provided.

NOTE: “Paddles” are usually shorter trips intended for beginners, and “excursions” are longer trips intended for those who have paddled the listed distance before. “Walk-ups” and “Skills Sessions” are intended for first time paddlers, or those who wish to improve their skills and practice.

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Your Park, Your Health Programs:

These programs are designed for beginners:

Let's Go Camping!

Floyd Bennett Field [Brooklyn](#)
Ecology Village 4PM

July 4-5, July 9-10, July 25-26, August 1-2, August 6-7, and August 15-16;

Enjoy a summer evening under the stars with friends and family!

Adventure for all ages! Tents, sleeping pads and/or cots provided.

Call 718-338-4306 for reservations

Let's Go Kayaking

June 23, July 7, July 21, August 1, August 6, and August 18

Canarsie Pier; 5PM-7PM, [Brooklyn](#)

Be the captain of your own boat!

Learn basic skills and practice paddling in the calm waters of Jamaica Bay. 20-minute sessions. Kayaks and life vests provided. No reservation required.

Let's Go Biking!

Floyd Bennett Field [Brooklyn](#)

July 11 and August 8; 11:30AM-3:30PM [Brooklyn](#)

Bike to the beach! Explore land and sea in Jamaica Bay! Bicycles and helmets provided. Call 718-338-4306 for reservations.

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Seaplane Ramp

Saturday and Sunday

May 23 – September 6

9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Canarsie Walk-up and Paddle

Canarsie Pier, [Brooklyn](#)

Saturday

May 23 – September 5

1:00 – 3:30 PM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Riis Landing Walk-up and Paddle

Riis Landing, [Queens](#)

Sunday

May 24 – September 6

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Camp Gateway Ranger Adventure

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Wiley Post Campfire Ring

June 6 – September 19

9:30 – 11:30 AM

Join a Park Ranger for a Nature Walks, Interactive games and exploration on this fun program for children from 6 to 12 years old. Programs vary. Space is limited; call 718 338 3799 for more information or to make a reservation.

Campfire Safety Program

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Wiley Post Group Campfire Ring

Saturday, June 6- September 19

2 – 3 PM

Learn best practices for enjoying a campfire safely. No reservation required, groups welcome.

Individual Sailing Instruction

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)

Thursdays

June 25 – August 27

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Each class consists of three consecutive sessions where participants learn the basic skills of sailing. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation.

Youth Group Sailing

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

July 8 – August 27

9:00 – 11:00 AM

Groups will learn about sailing and the environment of Dead Horse Bay. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation.

Family Sailing

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)

Fridays, July 10 – August 28

9:00 – 11:00 AM

Families enjoy sailing and the environment of Dead Horse Bay. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation.

Golden Age of Aviation at Floyd Bennett Field

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Ryan Visitor Center

Daily, June 17-September 6 ;

11 AM and 1PM

Ranger – led interpretive talks (tours? Waiting to hear on whether we'll have planes to show) on the field's rich aviation history.

Jacob Riis: An Advocate for Parks

Jacob Riis Park, [Queens](#)

Bay 9 - Flagpole

Daily, June 17-September 6

2:30PM-3PM

Join a park ranger to learn about the life of Jacob Riis, called “New York’s most useful citizen,” by Theodore Roosevelt and why the park was named in his honor.

RECURRING PROGRAMS cont'd

Stories of the Sky

Golden Age Discovery Zone
Ryan Visitor Center
Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

June 17-September 6

12PM-12:30PM

Families and children join us for a fun time to hear a story, chosen by the ranger leading the program. Stories will be announced each day throughout the summer.

Vinyasa Yoga

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Ryan Visitors Center

Wednesdays

July 1 – July 29

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 pm.

De-stress, detoxify, stretch, find the breath and clear the mind with a Certified Yoga Instructor.

Morning Meditation for Beginners

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge,
Wednesdays, July and August

9:30AM-10AM, [Queens](#)

Have you ever thought about trying meditation, but didn't know how to get started? Increase your resilience to stress, and decrease problems with anxiety, over thinking, and irritability.

Birding for Absolute Beginners

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Saturdays and Sundays, June 17-September 6, [Queens](#)

11AM-11:45AM

Join us for an introduction to this fun hobby. Learn how to do it like a pro in this introductory program. Bring binoculars and field guide or borrow from the refuge.

Jamaica Bay 101

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Daily, June 17-September 6
10AM and 2PM, [Queens](#)

Want to know more about the complex history of Jamaica Bay? Join a ranger for a quick introduction and leisurely walk to explore some of the fascinating stories of this beautiful bay.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

JUNE

Star Gazing

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Community Garden

Friday, June 5, 8:30PM-10:30PM

Come gaze at the wonders of the night sky over Floyd Bennett Field with the Amateur Astronomers Association. Weather permitting; clear or partly clear skies only. Telescopes are provided, but mosquito repellent is advised.

Growing Edibles in Containers

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Community Garden

Saturday, June 6, 2 PM

Presented by Bob Hallgan. You don't need a garden to grow healthy tasty food. Learn all you need to know to grow vegetables and edible flowers in containers.

Herbal Oils, Vinegars and Butters

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Ryan Visitor Center

Saturday, June 13, 2 PM

Presented by Adriann Musson. Bring a small jar (no bigger than four ounces) and learn how to make your own gourmet oils, vinegars and butters. Samples will be provided. Registration in advance is required, and limited to 20 persons. Please email FBGAgardens@aol.com to reserve a spot.

Play by the Bay -- FREE Family Fun Day June 14

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Ryan Visitor Center

Sunday, June 14, 1-5 PM

Presented by NYC Parks and National Park Service. Experience activities and demonstrations include camping, kayaking, biking, life birds of prey, live music dance and storytelling. Accessible by the Q35 bus and bike by Flatbush Ave. For more information, call 718- 338-3799.

Pennsylvania Park Paddle

Canarsie Pier, Brooklyn

Monday, June 15, 5-7 PM

Participants will enjoy a pleasant paddle along Jamaica Bay's North shore from Canarsie Pier to Pennsylvania Park for a hike to the top. See the stunning panorama and then paddle back. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation. (1.5 miles.)♥

Beach Campfire

Jacob Riis Park, [Queens](#)

Boardwalk and Beach 169 Street

Friday, June 19, 7PM-10PM

Join us for a National Park Service tradition, and kick off the Summer Solstice weekend with a beach campfire! Bring fixings for s'mores, and take part in the sing-along! We might even spy a fireworks show from Coney Island. Bring a chair, or blanket.

Walking Tour of Historic Fort Tilden

Fort Tilden, Building 1

Sunday, June 21,

9:30AM-11:30AM, [Queens](#)

Join a park ranger to discover Fort Tilden's role in the defense of New York Harbor.

Talking about Terrapins

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge

Saturday, June 27, [Queens](#)

5PM-6:30PM

Join Dr. Russell Burke, who has been conducting research on diamondback terrapin turtles at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge since 1998, for an introduction to this fascinating animal. We'll start with a quick introduction to terrapins before heading out on the trails and learning more about terrapins, Dr. Burke's work at the refuge, and ways that you might get involved.

Dead Horse Bay: New York's Best Kept Secret

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Main Entrance Ranger Station

Sunday, June 28, 10AM-12PM

Hike the trails and shoreline of Dead Horse Bay with Mickey Cohen, American Littoral Society naturalist, author of *Discovering the Trails of Dead Horse Bay*. Explore the nature and history of this area. Sturdy footwear is essential.

Beautiful Butterflies of Jamaica Bay

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
Sunday, June 28, 10AM-1PM
Over 70 species of butterflies have been identified at the refuge! Learn about their behavior, identification skills, and the important role they play in the environment as plant pollinators. Leader: Don Riepe. For information and reservations call (718) 474-0896; e-mail: donriepe@gmail.com. Kids welcome.

Exhibit Opening & Reception Birds Among Us: Avian Life in Our Parks

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
Sunday, June 28, 2-4 PM
Photos by Lawrence Monat. Exhibit runs for two months; open daily.

JULY

Ruffle Bar Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp,
Wednesday, July 1, 9:00– 11:30 AM
Paddle around this large island in Jamaica Bay on this trip. Learn about the history of the island and the plants and animals that thrive there. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (5 miles) ♥

Big Excursion by Kayak Around Floyd Bennett Field

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Mill Basin Kayak Launch at RC Flying Field,
Wednesday
July 1, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
Enjoy a 4 mile paddle around Floyd Bennett Field with a National Park Service Ranger and a 1.5 mile walk back to the start. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (5.5 miles) ♥

Four Sparrow Marsh Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Thursday, July 2,
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

See the sights on this beginner's paddle to the cloistered Four Sparrow Marsh. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation.

Rockaway Cove Paddle

Riis Landing, [Queens](#)
Thursday, July 2, 1:30 – 4:00 PM
Rockaway Point and back – this trip, follows the scenic bay shore of Rockaway peninsula along the cove toward Rockaway Point. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2 miles) ♥

Beach Campfire

Jacob Riis Park, [Queens](#)
Boardwalk and Beach 169 Street
Thursday, July 2, 7PM-10PM
Join us for a National Park Service tradition, and kick off the Independence Day weekend with a beach campfire! Bring fixings for s'mores, and take part in the sing-along! We might even spy fireworks shows on Long Island, or in New Jersey. Bring a chair, or blanket.

Fun Paddle and Walk in the Park Find Your Park!

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Mill Basin Kayak Launch
Friday, July 3, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2 miles)♥

Walking Tour of Historic Fort Tilden

Fort Tilden, Building 1, [Queens](#)
Sunday, July 5, 9:30-11:30AM
Join a park ranger to discover Fort Tilden's role in the defense of New York Harbor.

Point Breeze Paddle

Floyd Bennett field, [Brooklyn](#)
Aviation Road Beach
Monday, July 6, 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Get a new perspective of Jamaica Bay, on this early evening paddle. A National Park Ranger will lead the group under the Marine Parkway Bridge to the Eastern tip of Plumb Beach. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (3 miles.) ♥

Frank Charles Park Kayak Walk-up; Shoreline Seining with Urban Park Rangers

Frank Charles Memorial Park, [Queens](#)
Wednesday, July 8, 1 – 3:00 PM
Paddle on the water at this walk-up program and then find out what is in the water on this guided program. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Little Egg Excursion

North Channel Bridge, [Queens](#)
Thursday, July 9, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
Have an energetic paddle with a National Park Ranger and enjoy views of saltmarsh and wildlife. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (6.75 miles) ♥

NPS Centennial Jeopardy- Kids Edition, [Queens](#)

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Thursday, July 9, 1PM-2PM
Test your knowledge of 100 years of the NPS by battling your friends and family in a friendly game of NPS Centennial Jeopardy. Team of three required to participate. Ages 12 and under.

Seaweeds, Seashells, and More!

Fort Tilden Beach, [Queens](#)
Fort Tilden, Building 1
Sunday, July 12, 10AM-12PM
Hike the seashore at low tide with American Littoral Society naturalist, Mickey Maxwell Cohen, author of *Adventures at the Beach*, to look for marine life, coastal birds, and seaside plants. Binoculars, a magnifying glass and sun protection will be helpful.

The Big Excursion by Kayak Around Floyd Bennett Field

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Mill Basin Kayak Launch at RC Flying Field,
Wednesday, July 15, 12:30 – 3:30 PM
Enjoy a 4 mile paddle around Floyd Bennett Field with a National Park Service Ranger and a 1.5 mile walk back to the start. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (5.5 miles) ♥

Joco Marsh Excursion

Bayswater Park, [Queens](#)
Thursday, July 16,
9:00 AM -12:00 PM
Enjoy an energetic excursion from Bayswater Park through JoCo Creek. Immerse yourself in the estuary and visit this lovely salt marsh. NYC Urban Park Rangers will also be accompanying this paddle. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation. (4.5 mile) ♥

Kayak Skills Session

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp
Thursday, July 16, 1:30 – 3:30 PM
Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Children over 11 and adults are welcome to participate in this program. No reservation required.

North Shore Paddle Find Your Park!

Canarsie Pier, [Brooklyn](#)
Saturday, July 18, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
Enjoy a beginners paddle along the North shore of Jamaica Bay. Visit Canarsie Park on Paedergat Basin and then paddle back to Canarsie Pier. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2.5 miles) ♥

Gerritsen Creek Excursion

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)
Thursday, July 23,
11:00 AM – 2:30 PM
Enjoy a scenic excursion up Gerritsen Creek and back. See the estuary and then cool off at the Salt Marsh Nature Center while learning about habitat with the NYC Urban Park Rangers. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation. (4.5 miles) ♥

NPS Centennial Jeopardy-Teen Edition

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
Thursday July 23, 1PM-2PM
Test your knowledge of 100 years of the NPS by battling your friends and family in a friendly game of NPS Centennial Jeopardy. Team of three required to participate. Ages 13 -16.

Birds of Summer

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
Saturday, July 25, 10AM-1PM
Join us for a slide presentation and hike around the ponds and gardens with naturalist Don Riepe. About 70 species of songbirds, shorebirds, wading birds and waterfowl breed in Jamaica Bay. Learn about their life history and migration. This is an NYC Audubon/GNRA Partnership Program. To reserve space call (718) 474-0896; e-mail: donriepe@gmail.com

Fresh Creek Paddle Find Your Park!

Canarsie Pier, [Brooklyn](#)
Thursday, July 30,
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Enjoy a beginner's paddle along the North shore of Jamaica Bay to Fresh Creek and then paddle back to Canarsie Pier. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2.5 miles) ♥

Rockaway Cove Paddle

Rockaway Point Kayak Launch, [Queens](#)
Thursday, July 30, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
To Riis Landing and back - This trip follows the scenic bay shore of the Rockaway peninsula along the cove toward Riis Landing from Rockaway Point. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2 miles) ♥

Full Moon Hike

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge
Friday, July 31, [Queens](#)
8:30PM-10PM
Experience the park after dark and learn more about the nocturnal residents at the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. An indoor presentation will be followed by an evening hike. Overcast skies cancels. (2miles) ♥

AUGUST

Calvert Vaux Park Exploration Walk-up and Paddle Program

Calvert Vaux Park, [Brooklyn](#)
Wednesday, August 5,
1:00 - 3:00 PM
Have an exploration with the Urban Park Rangers and be sure to paddle at the walk-up program here at this new NYC park located behind Coney Island. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Thursday, August 6, 9:00 - 10:30 AM
Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Bayswater Park Walk-up Paddle

Shoreline Ecology Exploration

Bayswater Park, [Queens](#)

Thursday, August 6, 12:30 – 2:30 PM
First time kayakers can enjoy this walk-up kayaking program and also discover with the Urban Park Rangers what lives in Jamaica Bay. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

NPS Centennial Jeopardy- Kids Edition

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
August 6, 1PM-2PM

Test your knowledge of 100 years of the NPS by battling your friends and family in a friendly game of NPS Centennial Jeopardy. Team of three required to participate. Team of three required to participate. Ages 12 and under.

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Wednesday, August 12,
1:00 – 3:30 PM
Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Deadhorse Bay Paddle

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)

Thursday, August 13, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Experience Deadhorse Bay from the water, on this pleasant paddle across to Plumb Beach. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation. (2 miles) ♥

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Thursday, August 13, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Friday, August 14, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

NPS Centennial Jeopardy- Teen Edition

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)

Thursday, August 20, 1PM-2PM

Test your knowledge of 100 years of the NPS by battling your friends and family in a friendly game of NPS Centennial Jeopardy. Team of three required to participate. Ages 13 -16.

Walk Up and Paddle Idlewild Park

Idlewild Park, [Queens](#)

Thursday, August 20,
11:30 AM– 1:30 PM

Explore the salt marsh near the head of Jamaica Bay on this walk up and paddle program. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Birding activity will also be provided by NYC Park Rangers on shore. No reservation required.

Jackie Cochran: Giving Wings to American Women

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Ryan Visitor Center

Thursday, August 20, 1PM-2PM

Jacqueline (Jackie) Cochran, one of the most fascinating women in the field of aviation, broke numerous aviation records, served as director of the WASPS during WWII, became our first woman test pilot, and even owned a cosmetics company. Join us for a lecture and Powerpoint program about this versatile woman flyer.

Bergen Beach Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Friday, August 21, 12:30 – 3:00 PM

The soft shoreline along Bergen beach up to Paedergat Basin is a wild habitat along the edge of the bay. Have a paddle with a National Park Ranger and see this corner of the refuge. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (3 miles) ♥

Make Your Own Natural Dyes

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Community Garden Picnic Area

Saturday, August 22, 2PM

Presented by Adriann Musson. This is a hands-on workshop in which you will learn how to use fruit and vegetable scraps to make your own dyes. Fabrics provided for experimentation. . Registration in advance is required, and limited to 20 persons. Please email FBGAgardens@aol.com to reserve.

Walking Tour of Historic Fort Tilden

Fort Tilden, Building 1, [Queens](#)

Sunday, August 23, 9:30AM-
11:30AM

Join a park ranger to discover Fort Tilden's role in the defense of New York Harbor.

Hike the Trails of the North Forty Natural Area

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Ryan Visitor Center

Sunday, August 23, 10AM-12PM

Join American Littoral Society naturalist Mickey Maxwell Cohen and discover the birds, wildflowers, and unique foliage in this developing maritime woodland. Participants will carpool from the Ryan Visitors' Center to the North Forty trailhead at Floyd Bennett Field. Insect repellent, binoculars, and a magnifying glass will be helpful. This is an American Littoral Society / GNRA Partnership Program.

Founder's Day 99th Birthday of NPS

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Ryan Visitor Center

Tuesday, August 25, 11AM-3PM

Celebrate the 99th birthday of the National Park Service with fun birthday-themed activities, cake, and other refreshments! Learn more about the history of the NPS and what is in store for our centennial year.

Junior Ranger Paddle

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp,

Wednesday, August 26,
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Junior Rangers will paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and observe wildlife in action. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation.

Fun Paddle and Walk in the Park Find Your Park!

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Wednesday, August 26,
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Enjoy a beginners paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2 miles) ♥

Yellow Bar Excursion

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp,

Thursday, August 27,
9:30 AM. – 12:00 PM

Paddle to this saltmarsh at mid-tide and see the plants and animals that thrive there. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (5 miles) ♥

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Thursday, August 27, 1:30 – 3:30 PM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required

Fun Paddle and Walk in the Park Find Your Park!

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Mill Basin Kayak Launch

Friday, August 28,
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Enjoy a beginners paddle along the shore of Floyd Bennett Field and then have a pleasant walk back to the start. Reservations are required; call 718 338 3799 for more information, and to make a reservation. (2 miles) ♥

Kayak Skills Session

Riis Landing, [Queens](#)

Friday, August 28, 1:30 – 3:30 PM

Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Children over 11 and adults are welcomed to participate in this program. No reservation required.

Jamaica Bay Shorebird Festival

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
Saturday, August 29, 8AM-5PM

Join us for a day-long series of presentations and field trips at our 10th Annual Shorebird festival. Learn about the behavior, biology and migration of the many species of sandpipers, plovers and other shorebirds that migrate through Jamaica Bay. For information and reservations call (718) 474-0896; e-mail: donriepe@gmail.com

Junior Ranger Shorebird Festival

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, [Queens](#)
Sunday, August 30, 10AM-3PM

All are welcomed to this family friendly event with opportunities to explore, learn and protect shorebirds. Hikes will be scheduled throughout the day along with other shorebird-themed family activities.

Growing Garlic

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Ryan Visitor Center

Sunday, August 30, 2PM

Presented by Bob Halligan. Fall is the best time to plant garlic in the northeast. The workshop will cover the different types of garlic, where to purchase, how to plant, care for, harvest and store your garlic.

Canarsie Pol Excursion

Canarsie Pier, [Brooklyn](#)

Wednesday, September 2,
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Paddle around this large island in Jamaica Bay on this energetic trip. Learn about the history of the islands of Jamaica Bay. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation. (5 miles) ♥

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)
Seaplane Ramp

Wednesday, September 2,
2:00 – 4:00 PM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

White Island Excursion

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)

Thursday, September 3,
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Traverse Deadhorse Bay and up Gerritsen Creek to see the habitat restoration and the creatures that call White Island home. (4.25 miles) ♥

Kayak Skills Session

Riis Landing, [Queens](#)

Thursday, September 3,
1:30 – 3:30 PM

Receive instruction and practice kayak strokes and skills each week. Children over 11 and adults are welcome to participate in this program. No reservation required.

Walk Up and Paddle Camp Gateway

Floyd Bennett Field, [Brooklyn](#)

Seaplane Ramp

Friday, September 4,

9:30 – 11:30 AM

Kayak tryouts for those who have never done it before. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. No reservation required.

Deadhorse Bay Paddle

Gateway Marina, [Brooklyn](#)

Friday, September 4,

1:00 – 3:00 PM

Experience Deadhorse Bay from the water, on this pleasant paddle across to Plumb Beach. Open to the public, ages 6 and up with an adult. Reservations required; call 718-338-3799 for more information and to make a reservation. (2 miles) ♥

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